



# Alaska Anthropological Association Newsletter

*Nome is Calling...  
see page 3 for  
details.*

*Archaeology Month  
poster information,  
see page 11.*

Volume 44, Number 3

[www.alaskaanthropology.org](http://www.alaskaanthropology.org)

May 2018

*NOW! Is the time to start planning to attend the 46th Annual Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association in Nome!*

*February 27th – March 2, 2019*

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*Remembering Don  
Clark (see pg. 4)*



*Photo courtesy of Patrick Saltonstall*

Do you know of any upcoming conferences, workshops, exhibits, funding or job opportunities, calls for papers, or other events that are of interest to aaa members? Please submit news items and photographs to the editor at: [scoffman@alaska.edu](mailto:scoffman@alaska.edu)





## President's Message

It is the first of May and I am watching snow fall out my window. We may have a late start to our field seasons this year! Even so, I am getting the spring cleaning bug and am calling on you to help. The association has many copies of past journals, many more than we could ever sell. Now that online options are available, paper copies are not flying off the shelves. If you know of a non profit, library, rural community or other worthy party that would like sets of the Alaska Journal of Anthropology, please drop me a line. We will make it happen.

I'd like to thank the organizers of the 2018 conference from the National Park Service. They stayed on budget and we had a fantastic meeting. Our banquet speakers, AlexAnna Salmon and Alan Boraas paired beautifully and gave us important examples on the cultural values of resources and community engagement from within. It is never too early to start planning for our next meeting, and the Carrie M. McLean Memorial Museum is already updating our website with what to expect next year in Nome! We are excited to announce our keynote speakers, Bernadette Yaayuk Alvanna-Stimpfle, from the Kawerak Eskimo Heritage Program, and Dr. Igor Krupnik, of the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center. The association voted to increase our travel grant program for next year to \$6000. That means we will offer up to 10 scholarships of up to \$600 each to help students and community member attend the meeting. The travel grants went through without a hitch this year, and we were able to bring five people to Anchorage, most of whom had never attended an aaa meeting before.

Good luck with preparations for summer research and writing! Don't forget to consider the AJA when you are publishing the results of your work. We are always looking for new contributions.

*Julie Esdale*

### *President*

Julie Esdale

### *Vice President*

Amy Phillips-Chan

### *Board Members*

Shelby Anderson

Phoebe Gilbert

Yoko Kugo

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H. Kory Cooper

### *Treasurer*

Vivian Bowman

*The purpose of the Alaska Anthropological Association is to serve as a vehicle for maintaining communication among people interested in all branches of anthropology; to promote public awareness and support for anthropological activities and goals; to foster knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of Alaska Native and circumpolar cultural heritage; to work in collaboration with Indigenous communities on all aspects of research and education; and to facilitate the dissemination of anthropological works in both technical and non-technical formats.*

*Membership is open to any individual or organization indicating an interest and concern for the discipline of anthropology. The Association holds its annual meeting during March or April of each year and generally publishes four newsletters each year.*

*The membership cycle begins each year on 1 October. Annual membership dues include a subscription to the Alaska Journal of Anthropology. Dues are \$50 for student members and \$100 for regular members. Memberships may be purchased online at [www.alaskaanthropology.org](http://www.alaskaanthropology.org).*

*Please e-mail submissions to the newsletter to the editor, Sam Coffman ([sccoffman@alaska.edu](mailto:sccoffman@alaska.edu)).*

## An update from ACZ!

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Photo by Travis Shinabarger



Photo by Travis Shinabarger

At the Annual ACZ Workshop 2018, 19 ACZ Volunteers showed up and clocked in more than 76 man-hours. Seven skeletons were processed (cleaned). Each bone from eight different animals were labeled. Ten skeletons were integrated into the ACZ synoptic collection. And 35 new specimens were accessioned into the collection.

- For Students & Researchers. Specimens were lent to International Archaeology Day, McLaughlin Youth Center/PEG, and researchers outside Anchorage and Alaska.

The ACZ's MOA with UAA was extended to 2022, continuing the public's access to the collection.

- Caring for the Collection. Constructed a new storage shed to consolidate and properly store all in-process specimens.

**Find more information and sign up to volunteer at:**  
<https://www.alaskazooarch.org/>

## The 46th Annual Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association will be held in Nome, AK from February 27-March 2, 2019

Proposals are encouraged that address the theme: "Alaska Anthropology in the Age of Engagement: Communities, Collections and Collaboration." We are pleased to welcome Dr. Igor Krupnik of the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center, who will be giving the keynote address for the Awards Banquet. The Luncheon keynote will be offered by local Inupiaq language expert Bernadette Yaayuk Alvanna-Stimpfle from the Kawerak Eskimo Heritage Program. The 46th Annual Meeting is being organized by the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum in partnership with the University of Alaska Fairbanks Northwest Campus. Look for the call for sessions, papers, posters, and workshops in October 2018. Hope to see you in Nome! Contact: Amy Phillips-Chan, Director, Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, [achan@nomealaska.org](mailto:achan@nomealaska.org)



Photo: The new Richard Foster Building in Nome, AK is home to the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum, Kegoayah Kozga Library, and Katirvik Cultural Center.

# Remembering Donald Woodforde Clark, 1932 – 2018

## Courtesy the Alutiiq Museum

Kodiak archaeologist Dr. Donald Woodforde Clark passed away on March 31, 2018 in his home in Ottawa, Canada. He was 86. A long-time member of the Kodiak community, Clark was locally known as the “father of Kodiak archaeology”. He was the first researcher to describe the sequence of local cultures, tracking the development of Alutiiq societies over 7,000 years. His detailed studies of everything from slate working, to fur seal hunting, petroglyphs, the ground squirrels of Chirikof Island, and nineteenth century Alutiiq villages remain a foundation for research.

Clark always considered Kodiak his hometown. He moved to the community at age nine, accompanying his parents Dorothy E. Clarkson and Basil Woodforde Clark when they relocated to Alaska during the second World War. His father owned a gas station and auto repair shop in downtown Kodiak, at the “Y” in the road where Rezanof Drive meets Mill Bay Road. Here, Clark learned to repair cars, but his real interest was the outdoors. He loved northern camping, traveling by boat and small plane, and gardening. As a young man he spent summers at salmon weirs, working in Litknik, Portage Lagoon, and on the Olga River.

Exploring the coast, Clark discovered Kodiak’s remarkable archaeology, the well-preserved house depressions, artifacts, and animal remains that spoke of an earlier era. As an amateur he tested sites, took copious notes, and contributed collections to the Kodiak Historical Society, where he served as the organization’s president. He created the first inventory of sites for the Kodiak region, complete with his own carefully designed numbering system. With a grin, he called this early phase of his work, “privately funded humanities research!”

Clark graduated from Kodiak High School in 1951, his class salutatorian. He went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in geology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 1959 and complete “obligatory service” to the U.S. Army. He returned to Kodiak in 1960, unsure of his next steps. His arrival coincided with the launch of the Konyag-Aleut project, a multi-year anthropological study led by Dr. William Laughlin. Clark joined Laughlin’s team as a volunteer excavator and by summer’s end had been convinced to attend graduate school at the University of Wisconsin. He earned his PhD in anthropology in 1969.



*Patrick Saltonstall and Don Clark surveying on Chirikof Island, 2005. Photograph by Catherine West, courtesy the Alutiiq Museum.*





*Don Clark, Catherine West, and Mark Rusk boarding a Sea Hawk Air charter bound for Chirikof Island, 2005. Photograph by Patrick Saltonstall, courtesy the Alutiiq Museum.*



*Don Clark excavating at Dig Afognak, 1998. Photograph courtesy the Alutiiq Museum.*

In the following decades, Clark's focus shifts to interior Alaska and Canada and the history of Athapaskan societies, a subject he studied with his wife, ethnologist Annette McFayden. The pair accepted jobs at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Canada's national museum. Here Clark served as a research scientist and the organization's Archaeology Division Chief until his retirement in 1992.

Clark filled his later years with new research on Kodiak. He was the resident scholar at Dig Afognak in the 1990s, where he mentored many young people and dug a prolific number of sites. He participated in numerous Alutiiq Museum research projects, excavating beside high school students and traveling to remote places like Chirikof Island well into his seventies. And he donated many of his personal papers and photographs to the museum, creating a well-used collection fondly known as the "Clarkive".

Many Kodiak people remember Clark. He was a local boy who returned to the island often and shared his knowledge with kindness and enthusiasm. Few archaeologists study their hometowns, as Clark did, and his personal connections to Kodiak brought his research to life for Alutiiq people hungry for tribal history.

He was approachable and generous, with a dry sense of humor, but also exacting. Alutiiq Museum archaeologists Amy Steffian and Patrick Saltonstall remember him as a master of details who provided extensive comments on their writing. "Once he sent us eight, typed, single spaced pages of critiques on a manuscript, but he followed it with a \$500 gift to have the work published! We came to rely on his scrutiny," said Steffian.

"We didn't always agree," added Saltonstall, "but he was usually right. You wouldn't recognize it at first, but over time as you worked through ideas about Alutiiq history, you'd realize that Don had it figured out."



An update from Shelby Anderson, regarding the Arctic Horizons project. The Arctic Horizons project has brought together members of the Arctic social science research and indigenous communities to reassess the goals, potentials, and needs of these diverse communities and ASSP within the context of a rapidly changing circumpolar North.

A series of five topical and regional workshops held across the country brought together approximately 150 western and indigenous scholars to discuss the future of Arctic social science research. Additional participation by the broader Arctic social sciences, indigenous science, and stakeholder communities was solicited through an interactive web platform that also shared workshop and project outcomes, supported by special sessions at national and regional conferences.

The results of the workshops and on-line input were compiled at a final synthesis workshop with a report produced to describes the community's vision for the future of Arctic social science research. This re-envisioning process will help shape future Arctic social science research and inform Arctic economic, environmental, and political policy development.

The final report may be accessed at: <http://bit.ly/ArcticHorizons>

April was Archaeology Month in Alaska with a variety of activities occurring throughout the state. During this time the Museum of the North had a "Stories – Family Day" that incorporated a variety of themes from museum departments, local agencies, and local community participants. The Archaeology Department collaborated with CEMML, the BLM Fairbanks Office, and the UAF Anthropology Department in providing two mock excavations, flintknapping demonstration, atlatl throwing, hands-on collections, and zooarchaeological specimens. Additionally there was story recording as well as a Yupik story teller. Those who attended greatly enjoyed the event.



*Photo by Julie Esdale*



*Photo by Julie Esdale*



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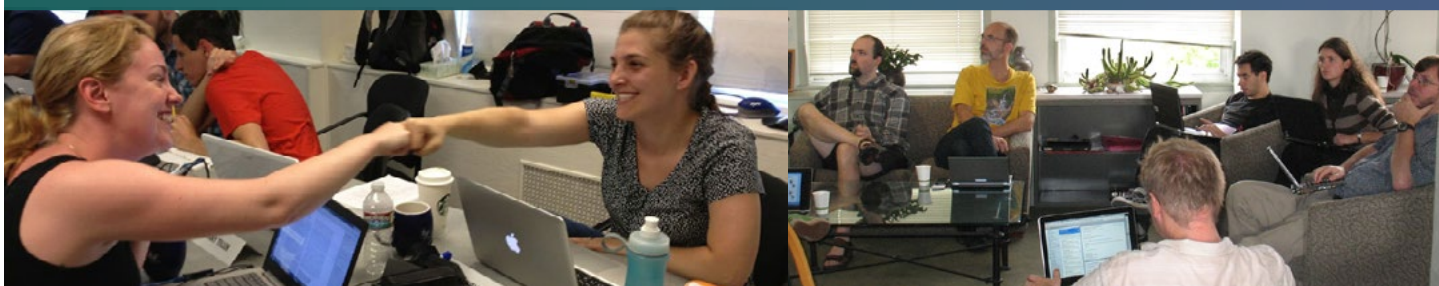




# JOIN US AT POLAR 2018

*three workshops meeting your  
data management needs*

## ARCTIC DATA CENTER



### *Data Management Planning*

Sharing tools and best practices to  
create a written plan for managing  
research data

19 June 2018, 12:30pm to 14:00pm  
Schwarzhorn A

### *Best Practices for Data & Metadata Submission*

Practical guidance to create quality  
metadata and prepare files  
for preservation

21 June 2018, 12:30pm to 14:00pm  
Schwarzhorn A

### *Publishing Data with the Arctic Data Center*

Arctic Data Center staff will demonstrate  
new metadata and provenance  
tools released in 2018

22 June 2018, 12:30pm to 14:00pm  
Schwarzhorn A



[arcticdata.io/training](http://arcticdata.io/training)

# 2018 Award and Scholarship Recipients<sup>8</sup>

## Outstanding Current Contribution Award

Ben Potter

## Professional Achievement Award

Karen Workman

## James W. VanStone Graduate Scholarship (PhD Level)

Yoko Kugo

## Thomas F. Eidel Graduate Scholarship (MA Level)

Allyson Pease

## Stefanie Ludwig Memorial Graduate Scholarship

Patrick Reed

## John E. Lobdell Undergraduate Scholarship

Michael Lorain

## Christina Jensen Scholarship (ACZ)

Liz Ortiz

Remember to apply for these and travel grants in 2019! Details on how and when to apply may be found at: <http://www.alaskaanthropology.org/awards-scholarships/>

Congratulations to all of the 2018 award recipients and to the Association, again, on winning the SAA Archaeology Week/Month Poster contest.



Photo by Julie Esdale

Last year's poster "The Paleoarctic Tradition" which represents the first settlers of Alaska, 7,000 to 14,000 years ago. These people made a living hunting, trapping and fishing a smorgasbord of resources that included now-extinct species such as bison, wapiti (elk), and horse, along with extant species that include caribou, Dall's sheep, waterfowl, small game, and fish. Recent archaeological finds show that Paleoarctic people had begun to exploit salmon, which in later millennia would become a major staple of Alaskan subsistence economies.



# Meetings of Interest

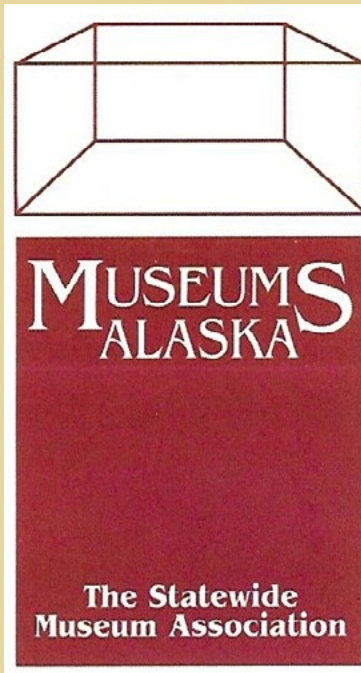
Sam Coffman, Newsletter Editor

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*The following are a list of upcoming conferences and meeting pertaining to Alaska and anthropology. If you know of others or would like to advertise a specific conference please contact Sam Coffman at: [sccoffman@alaska.edu](mailto:sccoffman@alaska.edu).*



**2018 Alaska Historical  
Society  
Annual Conference  
Sept. 12-15, 2018  
Nome, AK**



The 2018 conference will be held in Nome, Alaska, September 12-15, 2018.

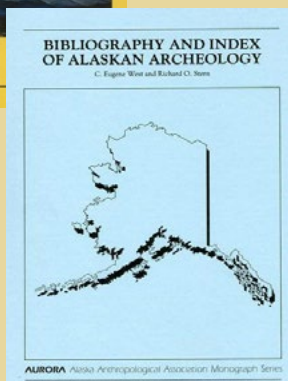
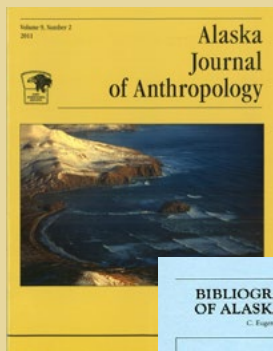
**See you in NOME!**



AFN 2018 Convention  
dates: October 18-20 in  
Anchorage, Alaska



**November 14-18, 2018 San Jose Convention Center**  
**AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**  
*Advancing Knowledge, Solving Human Problems*



## Submissions wanted!

The AJA and the Aurora Monograph Series are looking for submissions for publication.

The AJA accepts original research articles, reports, translations, essays, book reviews, and thesis and dissertation abstracts, as well as research notes. You may access the submission guidelines at:

[http://www.alaskaanthropology.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/AJA-Style-Guide-final\\_111015](http://www.alaskaanthropology.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/AJA-Style-Guide-final_111015).

**NOW!** Is the time to renew your AAA membership. All members receive an annual subscription to the Alaska Journal of Anthropology and the Association's quarterly electronic newsletter, delivered by email. Additional benefits of membership include discounted registration for the Annual Meeting, and discounted prices on the Aurora Monograph Series and print copies of the Alaska Journal of Anthropology, in addition to website access to free downloads of prior AJA issues. Each membership, with the exception of an institutional one, also includes voting privileges!

## **Visit the Alaska Anthropological Website News!**

**<https://www.alaskaanthropology.org/news/>**

### **Section 106 webinar “Planning for Successful Section 106 Agreements” on May 24 and 29**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has one more Section 106 webinar scheduled this spring. “Planning for Successful Section 106 Agreements” will be offered May 24 and 29

The program description and registration instructions are at [www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html](http://www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html). If you have questions about the programs email [training@achp.gov](mailto:training@achp.gov).

### **The 75th anniversary of the Battle of Attu, in Anchorage, May 17-19**

May 2018 is the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Attu, the only ground battle of World War II to take place on American soil. The National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are hosting activities May 17-19 in Anchorage. Activities include films, an art show, presentations and panel discussions. More information can be found at: [www.attu75.org](http://www.attu75.org).

### **Guiding Principles for Field-Based Historic Preservation, in Anchorage, May 15-17, 2018**

The Vanishing Treasures Program of the National Park Service is presenting a workshop, Guiding Principles for Field-Based Historic Preservation, in Anchorage, May 15-17, 2018. Topics include understanding how treatment decisions for historic resources are developed, how resources are evaluated, and how compliance, laws and the Secretary of the Interior’s standards for historic preservation are connected to the work performed by trades personnel. The course, with classroom and field sessions, is geared to trades personnel, contractors, engineers, architects, and historic building owners. For additional information about the course and registration, contact Erin Gibbs, 307.739.3571 / [erin\\_gibbs@partner.nps.gov](mailto:erin_gibbs@partner.nps.gov) or [vanishingtreasures@nps.gov](mailto:vanishingtreasures@nps.gov).

## **May is National Historic Preservation Month**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation promotes May as Historic Preservation Month to encourage saving important places in communities across the country. The Trust is asking people to share photos of special events and places during the month on their social media sites, #ThisPlaceMatters and @SavingPlaces and invites comments on what preservation means to people. They have a prepared a toolkit that can be found at: <https://savingplaces.org/this-place-matters#.WuIZGVWnGUm>.

For the month, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, National Park Service, and National Trust have teamed up to hold a photo contest, “Picture Yourself in a Historic Place.” Everyone is invited to share photos of themselves, family, and friends enjoying a historic place using the hashtag #MyHistoricPlace. The photo must have a caption that includes the name and location of the historic place. You must tag the @USACHP, @NationalRegisterNPS, @NPSCLP, @NPSParkCLP, and @savingplaces. One winner will be picked weekly through May and announced each Tuesday on the Advisory Council’s social media sites. For more information and to view the photos go to <https://www.facebook.com/usachp> and click on Campaigns.



# 7,500 YEARS BEFORE US IN ALASKA, THERE WAS OCEAN BAY

Get  
you poster  
today! Contact  
the Association or  
Jillian Richie of  
NPS to get yours!



## NAVIGATORS OF THE MARVEL WORLD

More than 7,500 years ago, Alaska's first maritime societies emerged along the southern coast. Called Ocean Bay, and the ancestors of today's Makah, they built the first maritime societies. They were the first to sail to Alaska's coast, along the way, they built the first maritime societies. They were the first to sail to Alaska's coast, along the way, they built the first maritime societies.

...they built the first maritime societies. They were the first to sail to Alaska's coast, along the way, they built the first maritime societies. They were the first to sail to Alaska's coast, along the way, they built the first maritime societies.



## THEIR TOOLS



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MARVELS AND MYSTERIES OF THE OCEAN BAY AT [NPS.GOV/KATM](https://nps.gov/katm).

Alaska Anthropology Month is sponsored by the Public Education Group of the Alaska Anthropology Association and its sponsoring agencies. Visit [www.alaskaanthropology.org](https://www.alaskaanthropology.org).